
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-43. (Cancelled)

44. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a compound as an agonist for an EDG receptor, wherein agonist activation of the EDG receptor activates NF- κ B, comprising the steps of:

- a. culturing cells which express said EDG receptor in medium with low-serum or defined medium designed to reduce basal levels of NF- κ B activation;
- b. contacting said cultured cells with said compound to be tested for agonist activity at said EDG receptor; and
- c. identifying the compound as an agonist by quantitatively determining NF- κ B activation in said cultured cells.

45. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 44, wherein said receptor is selected from the group consisting of EDG-2, EDG-3, EDG-4, EDG-5 and EDG-6.

46. (Currently Amended) A method of identifying a compound as an agonist for an EDG receptor, wherein agonist activation of the EDG receptor produces ~~H-8~~ IL-8, comprising the steps of:

- a. culturing cells which express said EDG receptor in a medium with low-serum or medium designed to reduce basal levels of IL-8 production;
- b. contacting said cultured cells with a candidate compound to be tested for agonist activity at said receptor; and
- c. identifying the compound as an agonist by quantitatively determining IL-8 production in said cultured cells.

47. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 46, wherein said receptor is ~~selected from the group consisting of EDG-2, EDG-3, EDG-4, EDG-5, and EDG-6.~~

48. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a compound as an antagonist for an EDG receptor, wherein agonist activation of the EDG receptor activates NF κ B, comprising the steps of:

- a. culturing cells which express an EDG receptor in a medium with low-serum or medium designed to reduce basal levels of NF- κ B activation;
- b. contacting said cultured cells with a mixture comprising an agonist and a compound to be tested for antagonist activity at said receptor, wherein said agonist is selected from lysolipid or 20% FBS; and
- c. identifying the compound as an antagonist by quantitatively determining NF- κ B activation in said cultured cells.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48, wherein said receptor is selected from the group consisting of EDG-2, EDG-3, EDG-4, EDG-5 and EDG-6.

50. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a compound as an antagonist for an EDG receptor, wherein agonist activation of the EDG receptor produces IL-8, comprising the steps of:

- a. culturing cells which express an EDG receptor in a medium with low-serum or defined medium designed to reduce basal levels of IL-8 production;
- b. contracting said cultured cells with a mixture comprising an agonist and a compound to be tested for antagonist activity at said receptor, wherein said agonist is an lysolipid or 20% FBS; and
- c. identifying the compound as an antagonist by quantitatively determining IL-8 production in said cultured cells.

51. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein said receptor is ~~selected from the group consisting of EDG-2, EDG-3, EDG-4, EDG-5 and EDG-6.~~

52. (Cancelled)

53. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a compound as an agonist of an EDG receptor as identified by the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of (i) the amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO: 17 and(ii) the amino acid sequence comprising

SEQ ID NO: 22, comprising the steps of:

- a. culturing cells which express an EDG receptor;
- b. contacting said cultured cells with a compound to be tested for an agonist activity at said receptor; and
- c. measuring a response indicative of the degree of an agonist activity.

54. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a compound as an antagonist of an EDG receptor as identified by the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of (i) the amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO: 17 and (ii) the amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO: 22, comprising the steps of:

- a. culturing cells which express an EDG receptor;
- b. contacting said cultured cells with a compound to be tested for an antagonist activity at said receptor; and
- c. measuring a response indicative of the degree of an antagonist activity.

55. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 53, wherein the response measured in step (c) is selected from activation of NF κ B, activation of Serum Response Element (SRE), activation of AP-1, increase in intracellular calcium levels, modulation of cellular cyclic AMP levels and GTP γ S binding.

56. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 55, wherein the response in step

(c) is activation of NF κ B, or activation of Serum Response Element (SRE), and is measured through a reporter assay.

57. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 55, wherein the response in step (c) is activation of NF κ B and is measured by determining the level of cytokines production.

58. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 57, wherein the cytokines are selected from the group consisting of IL-8, IL-6, and GM-CSF.

59. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 58, wherein the level of cytokine production is determined using ELISA.

60. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 54, wherein the response measured in step (c) is selected from activation of NF κ B, activation of Serum Response Element (SRE), activation of AP-1, increase in intracellular calcium levels, modulation of cellular cyclic AMP levels and GTP γ S binding.

61. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 60, wherein the response in step (c) is activation of NF κ B, or activation of Serum Response Element (SRE), and is measured through a reporter assay.

62. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 60, wherein the response in step (c) is activation of NF κ B and is measured by determining the level of cytokines production.
63. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 62, wherein the cytokines are selected from the group consisting of IL-8, IL-6, and GM-CSF.
64. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 63, wherein the level of cytokine production is determined using ELISA.